

City of Charleston
A Resolution in Support of Offshore Wind Energy Development

Whereas, supportive local policies and public opinion aid in establishing offshore wind energy development; and,

Whereas, the offshore wind energy industry represents a significant potential tax base for the City of Charleston and developing these resources could employ thousands of South Carolinians; and,

Whereas, the City of Charleston is well suited to meet the workforce and infrastructure needs related to offshore wind energy development and such development would create long-term, well-paying jobs for the community; and,

Whereas, the 33 wind energy manufacturing facilities currently operating in South Carolina employ over 1,100 people and generate \$530 million of output annually in the State of South Carolina; and,

Whereas these wind manufacturing firms support 1,797 number of indirect jobs and induced jobs statewide; and,

Whereas, power from wind energy, which has no fuel costs, would offset money that would otherwise go out of state to purchase energy fuels and instead allow for in-state investment in building and maintaining reliable energy infrastructure and generating local economic development; and,

Whereas, the port facilities of Charleston, Mt. Pleasant, and North Charleston may serve as a gateway for the global wind energy market that is expected to grow by hundreds of billions of dollars in the next five years; and,

Whereas the Charleston Regional Development Alliance has identified wind energy as one of the top priority economic development sectors for the Charleston area; and,

Whereas, Clemson University's Wind Turbine Drivetrain Testing Facility in North Charleston is the biggest and best of its kind in the world and is well-positioned to serve a central role in the further development of a wind energy industry hub for South Carolina as well as serving as a world class technological innovation and education center; and,

Whereas, offshore wind energy is a domestic source of energy; and,

Whereas, South Carolina has the second-largest offshore wind resource on the East Coast; and

Whereas, offshore wind energy is a valuable supplement to South Carolina's energy portfolio and represents a huge potential source of clean, renewable electricity for South Carolina.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Joseph P. Riley, Jr., Mayor, City of Charleston, and Charleston City Council pledge and support the following:

- 1) DECLARE wind energy to be a significant job-creating industry, and important source of clean energy; and,
- 2) INVITE offshore wind energy developers and manufacturers to meet with City public officials to hasten South Carolina's development of offshore wind energy resources; and
- 3) PRIORITIZE the recruitment of wind energy businesses to contribute to the strengthening coastal South Carolina wind industry cluster ; and,

- 4) PLEDGE to support and facilitate the development of businesses in the wind energy sector by helping them to leverage government programs and incentives at the federal, state, and local levels through the assistance of our economic development partners; and,
- 5) ENCOURAGE potential offshore wind energy developers and manufacturers to utilize the local workforce and human resources of Charleston to plan, site, construct and operate the project; and,
- 6) SUPPORT the development of renewable energy resources, particularly offshore wind energy; and,
- 7) PROMOTE open dialog between potential offshore wind energy developers and manufacturers and local stakeholders in order to foster transparency and trust; and,
- 8) ASSIST the regulatory processes involved with the siting of transmission infrastructure in our community associated with offshore wind energy generation; and,
- 9) ENCOURAGE the creation of and participation in an offshore wind energy coalition to represent coastal cities' interests to private developers and governmental agencies; and,
- 10) URGE the State of South Carolina to continue to maintain ongoing efforts to facilitate wind energy for South Carolina especially through the state's Wind Regulatory Task Force.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Charleston to be affixed this day of June, 2013.

Joseph P. Riley, Jr., Mayor
City of Charleston

ATTEST:

Vanessa Turner-Maybank
Clerk of Council